

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the Specification as shown.

Amend the paragraph starting with "figure 2b" on page 2 as follows:

bl figures 2b, 3b, 4b are similar sections to those shown in figures 2a, 3a and 4a illustrating the operation of the unit during the gear change in a second direction as indicated by the directional arrows,

Amend the first full paragraph on page 3 as follows:

cn The support body 12 carries a gear change control unit, generally referred to with numeral 18, comprising a shaft 20 ~~turningly~~ connected to the support body 12. The shaft 20 turns around a second axis, either orthogonal, or essentially orthogonal, to the pivoting axis 16 of the brake control lever 14. The shaft 20 carries a pulley 24 on which an end portion of a control cable 25 of a front or rear derailleur of a bicycle is wound. The rotation of the shaft 20 in a first direction, indicated by arrow 26 in figures 2a, 3a and 4a additionally winds the derailleur control cable on the pulley 24, while a rotation of the shaft 20 in a second direction, indicated by the arrows 28 in the figures 2b, 3b and 4b, releases the control cable of the derailleur.

Amend the paragraph that starts at the bottom of page 5 and runs to page 6

as follows:

4b<sup>3</sup>  
In the home conditions condition, the unit is in the configuration shown in figure 2a. In this configuration, the derailleur control cable applies a torque to the shaft 20, which tends to turn it anticlockwise. The ratchet mechanism formed by the first meshing unit 46 and the teeth 38 prevents the rotation of the gear 36 and the shaft 20 in the anticlockwise direction. The sequence shown in figures 2a, 3a and 4a illustrates the condition in which a single gear is shifted in the direction of most increased winding of the derailleur control cable on the pulley 24. The gear is shifted by oscillating the gear change lever indicated with numeral 30 in figure 1. This oscillation of the lever controls the clockwise rotation of the shaft 20 with reference to figures 2a, 3a and 4a. The ratchet mechanism formed by the first meshing unit 46 and the teeth 38 of the first set does not obstruct the clockwise rotation of the shaft 30. This ratchet mechanism forms an indexing unit which signals the passage from one gear to the following gear by clicking. The user clearly hears when the mechanism shifts, because the first meshing unit 46 clips onto a subsequent tooth 38.